



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/070,749 | 03/11/2002 | Costante Piazza | 35845/GM/1p | 9531 |

7590 10/02/2003

Modiano & Associati
Via Meravigli 16
Milan, 20123
ITALY

EXAMINER

SCOTT, JAMES R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2832

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/070,749

Applicant(s)

PIAZZA ET AL.

Examiner

James R Scott

Art Unit

2832

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 28 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Priority***

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on a PCT application filed in the European Patent Office on 4 September (04.09.2000). It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the PCT application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement referred to in applicants transmittal sheet in item 11 is not of record in this application. It has been noted during a search of the prior art that the International Application S.N. PCT/EP00/08842 has been published as an International Publication (WO 01/20736 A1) on 22 March 2001(22.03.2001). Applicants are required to provide an information disclosure statement including Form PTO-1449 listing the relevant prior art to be considered.

Claim Objections

Claim 28 is objected to because of the following informalities: The expression -- and/or -- is not acceptable. Express the operation of the rotary operating element by the servomotor for the first and second disconnection units in one dependent claim and optionally the sole operation of the first disconnection unit by a rotary operating member of a servomotor or the sole operation of the second disconnection unit by a rotary operating member of a servomotor. Avoid entry of new matter. Appropriate correction is required.

Cited References

At the time of this first examination no prior art disclosure has been submitted by applicant. The WIPO International Publication (WO 01/20736 A1) published on 22 March 2001(22.03.2001) is cited due to its relevancy to the pending US national application.

Ponsioen discloses the use of fixed and movable contact arrays which engage or disengage dependent upon the location of the associated operating shafts in a high voltage disconnecter.

Fuchsle et al disclose a gas insulated switchgear assembly including grounded-insulating gas filled housing including grounding and disconnect switches.

Boersma et al disclose high voltage circuit breaker arrangements which may be either monophasic (figs. 1-5) or polyphase (figs. 6-9) but include at least two interconnected switch contact arrays.

Piazza discloses a gas insulated polyphase switchgear assembly including an interruption unit 4 and a disconnection unit 5 the latter being operated by a servomotor or the like.

Cronin et al disclose a rotary switch for gas-insulated substations. Note the switching sequence arrangement in figures 5 and 6.

Olsen et al discloses the use of a disconnect switch in a gas insulated, metal clad high voltage switchgear. Note in particular the three-phase arrangement illustrated in Fig. 5.

Art Unit: 2832

Pesch teaches the use of a rotary high voltage disconnect switch. Note in particular figs. 1,5 and 6.

Franchi et al disclose the use of a high voltage switchgear assembly including an interruption unit electrically connected to a disconnection unit,

Summary

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Note the remarks with respect to the priority documents, objection to claim 28 and the comments with respect to the omitted information disclosure statement.

Claims 1-14 have been cancelled. Claims 15-27 are allowed. Claim 28 is objected to.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R Scott whose telephone number is 703-308-2013. The examiner can normally be reached on any workday between 1-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 703-308-7619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3432 for regular communications and 703-305-1341 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.

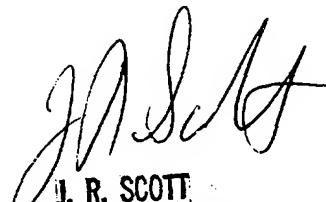
Art Unit: 2832

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

JRScott: jrs

September 8, 2003


J. R. SCOTT
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2832